

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

The allowance of claims 86, 97-113 and 119-122 is acknowledged. The Examiner has stated that the prior art of record fails to teach that the number of possible time slots varies from one specified group to another; the proper art of record fails to teach a method of skipping one level of the search tree as recited in claim 86; and the prior art of record fails to teach a method of selecting one time from the first number of time slots for the first subset and the second of time slots for the second subset.

Claims 87-96 have been amended to depend on claim 86 and are therefore allowable.


Claims 85, 114-118, and 123-124 have been cancelled to expedite prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance. Applicant reserves the right to file a continuation application directed to the subject matter of the cancelled claims.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of claims 87-96, in addition to the previous allowance of claims 86, 97-113, and 119-122 is requested.

The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned in the event that the next office action is one other than a Notice of Allowance. The undersigned is available for telephone consultation at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Nov. 7, 2005

By: 
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